

Journal

Month 10 to June 22 1890



Journal

1890.

Vernon Bailey.

Elk River, Minn.

1890

March 17. Packed our blankets, provision & collecting outfit & started for a lumber camp 20 miles N of Bridgeman & about 50 miles N. of town. Took a team & dog.

Snow is about 10 inches deep when we start, some bare ground in fields & meadows. It is warm & snow soft. a chilly wind from the N.W. clear!

The fields on sandy hills are bare & *Plestrophanax nivis* & *Otocoris alpestris* & *Calcaris cappoenus* are abundant. Battle Brook is open & full of little fish & some Coon tracks along it.

Saw 2 Pinolated Grouse.

Snow grows deeper near Princeton, roads poor & traveling slow. Stopped at night near Princeton.

... near Princeton
u. 18 Started at 8 A.M. & reached Bridgeman at noon. Through timber all the way. A few *Pinus strobus* appear at Princeton & grow more common as we go north, only stumps & dead trees & small trees are left but the stumps show that pine has been quite thick. From the oak openings & sand-hills of yesterday we enter the timber region at Princeton.

At general flatness, large marshes along streams, dense thickets, large bodies of good heavy timber with a mixture of pine mark the change. The snow is deeper as we go farther into the woods. From Bridgman we follow up the W. branch of Rum R. about 20 miles to a lumber camp - Wheelers. From Bridgman the pine timber has been thick & large but all that would make logs has been cut. The small pine is quite thick & together with various deciduous trees forms pretty thick woods.

Reached camp at 5 P.M. It is 30 miles from Mille Lacs Lake.

Snow is about 18 inches deep at camp. One Porcupine is reported near here but ~~seen~~ bear of no Martins. Saw fresh Deer tracks & ~~seen~~ & Woodchuck & Mink & Rabbit & Lynx & Coyote tracks. No pines seen but *P. strobus* seen, a few large old pines, hollow or crooked, are still standing. Good farms are common to Bridgman, none north of there.

Large granite boulders are numerous in woods. A windy, chilly day & no birds seen. Thawed a little, cold at night.

March 19 Slept on floor of lumber camp + took cold. a cold night, clear, froze hard in morning, thawed a little in P.M. + clouded up with a S. wind in evening. Went down the river + crossed + over to where a Porcupine had been seen about a mile before. Found where it had gnawed trees lately but failed to find it. It had gnawed back from Pine, Popple, Black oak, + Basswood. Hunted for him all of forenoon, then went back to river + camped by old pine log. Set 28 traps, killed 2 Red Squirrels + 3 Flying Squirrels, skinned the last in evening. Saw Coon, Woodchuck, Skunk, + Cat tracks.

20 Rained about an hour in morning yet things soon, but stopped at daylight. Had a good sleep on soft pine boughs by big log with fire in front. Not a cold night. Barred + Horned Owls hooted all around.

Started for the Porcupine place before light. Found a fresh track but could not follow it. hunted all around for it but to no purpose.

Took up traps + got 6 Erythomys + 3 Hesperomys + a *Sorex forsteri*.

shot a Rabbit, saw more Deer tracks.
Warm, snow going off fast.
Came back to Bridgman & then over to
Milaca, waited for train from 4 to
6:30 P.M. Milaca ~~time~~ and
Bridgman are lumber towns, each
with a large saw mill. are on flat
muddy ground & at this season
not very dry. Dark soon after
leaving Milaca & could see no more
of the country. Reached Hinsdale at
8 P.M. & put up at the Windsor House.

March 21 Wake up in a town I had not seen
before. Found it to be another lumber
town with pine all around & town
full of stumps, not a live tree in or
near town. Began the day by asking
questions about the country. Got acquainted
with half a dozen men & learned all
they knew about the country. Finally
settled on a plan & hired a man to
take me out to Davis lumber camp
4 miles N. of town on the ~~N.~~ fork of the
Grindstone R. The camp is in thick
timber of *Pinus strobus*, *Abies balsamea*
A. nigra & common deciduous trees.
It is a large camp of about 45 men.
They have hauled 66000000 feet of logs this winter.

Reached camp at 2 P. M. Made up 13 skins & hunted awhile. Killed a Picoides, saw trees gnawed by Porcupines.

The camp is well built of logs & good roof. & plank floor. There are two, a cooking & eating camp & the bunk room. The bunk room is 50 x 35 feet, has 24 large bunks, a big stove & 3 small windows.

The cooking room is not quite so large. They are connected by a roof over a space of 20 feet. Supper is well cooked & very abundant. The men rush into the room & seat themselves around four long tables. There is pea soup, roast beef, foder & beans, potatoes, codfish, bread & butter, 2 kinds of pie, 2 kinds of stewed fruit, 4 kinds of cakes!

A warm day, thawed lively.

March 22. The camp was stirring at 4 o'clock, breakfast was over & I was well out in the woods at 6, though not light enough to see tracks. Found Porcupine gnawings & waded around in deep snow. Saw 2 Deer & lots of tracks. They come into clearings & roads to feed & keep out of deep snow. Saw Porcupine & Lynx & Skunk & Woodchuck tracks but could not follow any of them. Shot a Pileated Woodpecker & saw several.

While coming home at noon I saw a Porcupine track crossing road, & followed it a little way & saw the fellow high up on a pine limb. Shot it & found it to be a large old ♂. In P.M. made up the Porcupine & 4 other skins.

Froze up bad in morning, thawing by noon. Clear & pleasant.

The men had a Saturday night dance in the evening. a lively time, bore a good fiddler in camp - a half-witted Swede boy.

March 23. Sunday. A clear, pleasant day, thawed. Snowing lively in evening.

" 24 3 inches of soft snow on the crust in morning. I had a good early start, had found 3 Porcupines before 8 o'clock. Killed 2 & brought one in alive. Found them all sitting on limbs, seemed to be asleep. Hunted till noon but found no more. Killed a Deer & saw 4 more. The one killed was a wild doe, stomach full of liebens, a well grown embryo. In P.M. skinned Deer & one Porcupine. Rained from 4 P.M. till late in evening.

March 25. Took an early tramp of a mile or so, found nothing but a Woodchuck track. It snowed all night & most all day but melted as fast as fell, is wet & sloppy. Cold & freezing towards night a cold N.W. wind.

Skinned Porcupines & set 12 traps. Found a young nearly ready to be born in an old Porcupine. It had sharp quills & thick hair, its eyes were open & incisors & part of molars were through & hard. Never saw any animal so well developed when born.

" 26 A cold morning, froze up hard, warmed up by noon & thawed fast.

Caught 3 Evotomys & killed 2 big Northern Flying Squirrels & shot some Woodpeckers & a Red Squirrel.

A boy killed me a Saw-whet Owl. Saw 2 wolf tracks & some Wild cat tracks.

" 27 Froze in morning, cloudy & windy through the day.

Hunted most of day, got but little game. Saw 2 Deer & lots of tracks.

Snow knee deep in woods, a few bare spots under trees. Saw 4 Ravens.

March 28

Froze in morning, thawed fast, clear & warm. Hunted west all day, found a Porcupine & caught an Eotomys, killed a *Regulus satrapa*.

" 29

Froze up in morning, a little flurry of snow, thawed fast before noon.

Took a long snowshoe tramp in A.M. Came near getting lost, went away back into heavy timber where not a stick has been cut. The big pines stand thick & are tall & straight. It is nice timber. Heard a growling that I think was a Lynx, saw lots of fresh Lynx tracks. Saw 8 Deer, 5 of them in one door.

Caught a Mink in a trap, set 13 more shrew traps.

" 30

Sunday, Froze hard in morning, thawed through the day.

" 31

A cold night, clear, froze hard, thawed fast through the day. Went to my Wolf bait for the last time, nothing had been to it. Took up most of my traps, caught a *Hesperomys* & 6 *Eotomys* & 2 *Sorex personatus*.

made up 9 mammal + 2 bird skins,
Packed the big skins in a box & the
rest in my trunk, packed up my
things & am ready to start for home
in the morning.

The snow is a foot deep in the woods &
roads still good.

April 1 Took up the rest of my traps & left the
lumber camp early in morning, came
out to Hinckley on a sleigh & good road
until out of the woods near town. Snow
a foot deep & solid in woods. some bare
ground in & near town.

Left Hinckley at 2:40 P.M. Passed
through some splendid pine timber that
had not been touched, large trees
& thistle. Country flat & swampy &
brushy, more open & some farms near
Mora. *Abies balsamea* extends to about
Mora, not south of there.

Some fine & lots of clumps at Milaca, but
Pinus strobus begins to run out & none
seen south of Estes. From Estes there is
heavy maple timber a few miles & then a
belt of *Pinus banksiana* reaches to across
the river from Princeton - thick & small.

Ground half bare at Princeton & thence
to Elk River.

April 2. A spring morning, froze a little but soon thawing. Bluebirds singing & Geese honking. Went hunting in morning, got a Rabbit & 2 Chipmunks, skinned Chipmunks & stuffed Deer skin & set Weasel & Arcticola traps, then wrote on my Hinsley report.

Threas common. Geese heard all around. Snow going off fast, water running on brook & holes in the ice. Hunted with dogs in evening, found nothing. Warm & cloudy in P.M. Wind S.

" 3. A steady warm rain all day & in evening, took off all the snow but some spots. Got a Weasel & a Mink & 2 Arcticolas. Made up skins & wrote some, couldn't do much. Robins came & are common -

" 4 Clear & warm. The rain spoiled my traps, caught but little. Packed some boxes, finished my report & in P.M. went to town - Geese & ducks quite common -

" 5 Rained all day, some new birds wrote some but couldn't do much.

April 6 Sunday. Rained part of day, snow all gone but drifts in shady places. Birds coming lively.

" 7 Went to town early, got a telegram to start for Valentine, Nebraska. Packed up & got ready in P.M.

" 8 Left Elk River at 4: P.M. & had to stay in Minneapolis till 8:40 in morning. Weather warm & snow all gone except rare patches, frost mostly out of ground & some plowing done. Vegetation hardly started.

" 9 Left Minneapolis at 8:40 A cold, windy morning, the Mississippi R. is open & the smaller streams, ponds open, lakes open along edges.

Started out on the C. St. P. M. & O. R.R. Followed up Minnesota River to Mankato, then out onto prairie, & prairie all the rest of the way. Most of the lakes open after getting on the prairie. 3 Cormorants seen at Mankato, Franklins Gulls on lakes. Very windy, few birds seen.

Men seeding with fur overcoats on. Vegetation not started. Reached Sioux City at dark & had to wait till 9 A.M. in morning.

A few *Passer domesticus* seen in Minneapolis not many.

April 10. Left Missouri Valley at 9 A.M., crossed river & followed up the Elk horn River valley. The bluffs along the Mo. R. & all the side streams are high & steep. A little frost in morning.

Progne subis, 1 ♂ in Missouri Valley & lots of Passer domesticus building nests.

Followed up the broad rich valley of the Elk horn as far as O'Neil. A fine farming country, large fields, & great cribs full of corn.

Dark at N Long Pine, couldn't see the country any farther. Reached Valentine at 10 o'clock. A warm day, clear.

.. 11 Went to P.O. first, got mail, then took a tramp over prairie & in to the creek valley N of town. Liked the looks of the country, engaged board at a ranch, got a team to take me down to it & was settled & ready for work by noon.

Set some traps & shot birds, caught one Geomys. Shot a Rabbit.

A very warm day. Anemone patens in blossom, Elms & cedars & Aegiphila shephardi in blossom. Farmers plowing, wheat mostly sown. Grass not started much.

April 12. Caught another *Geomys* & a *Spermophilus*
lineatus, + 2 *Hesperomys* + a big Cat -
killed some more birds + set more
traps. Made up skins + hunted.
A cold morning + cool + windy all day.
looks like storm in evening.

" 13 Sunday. Cold + raining most of
the day.

" 14 Caught a S. *lineatus* + 2 *Oryzomys*.
Made 5 mammal skins.
Went to town after noon so as to go out
to Kennedy in the morning.
Met Mr. Bates + had a good chat with
him. He is keen + accurate. is well
posted on botany + knows something of
birds + mammals. Has a lot of fossil
bones, some of Saurians + others of large
mammals.
Cloudy + not very warm.

" 15 Left Valentine at 8 A.M. in buckboard
stage with 4 passengers + other baggage, so
my box + valises had to be left for another team
to bring out. Traveled the same old
sandy road, across the Niobrara R. + then
up the Garden Creek Valley.
Vegetation hardly started.

Reached Simeon at noon & stopped
at about 5 o'clock at Mr. Wills' ranch,
about 35 miles from Valentine.

Shot a *Spermophilus wallis* & a pair of
Mallards. No flowers seen except
a little *Carex*. *Anemone patens*
are in bloom all around Valentine.
Holes & tracks of *Dipodomys* seen when
we got into the sand hills 2 miles S.
of town, & all along the route when very
sandy. *Gracilis* hills numerous all
along. Saw 2 S. 13lineatus. Only saw
one new bird - *Melospiza erythrocephala*.
Colaptes are common all along, about as
many red as yellow but more dull
& mixed.

April 16 Went out to a P.D. town near the ranch
Shot 2 Prairie Dogs & a Cottontail &
a S. 13lineatus, & a big Weasel.

Skinned these things & rolled up skins.
In P.M. followed up the Gordon Cr.
about 3 miles, only got a Short eared
Owl & saw its mate. Saw a lot of
dukes but did not get any.

My box did not come so I have to
stay here another night & can not do
much without traps.

Frost in morning, a cool day.

To Kennedy

Apr. 17 Hunted in morning but killed nothing but a Longspur.

My box came at noon. The man's horse was sick & he did not come out from town until last night.

Started for King's place at Kennedy & reached there at one o'clock. Made up the skins & then set some traps.

Got one Geomys before dark.

Frost in morning, warm & pleasant day.

" 18

Caught 2 Geomys. Set traps till 2 o'clock, I have got out 30 traps.

Found holes of Dipodomys & of mice & Gophers. Did not see a mammal all day. Found an Ochetodon in a trap in evening.

Made up some skins.

A little frost in morning. Very warm day. Clear.

Pinnated Grouse booming all around.

" 19 Went to traps early, found 4 Dipodomys 4 Hesperomys, an Ochetodon. Went around again before dark & got 2 Arvicolas & a S. Blinarius & 2 Geomys.

Shot a Sharp-tailed Grouse. Made 11 mammal skins & one bird. Tramped over a good deal

of country but didn't stop to hunt much.
Caught 14 mammals today, of 5 species.
A fairly good day's work. No sign of
mollis yet.

The top of one of the highest sandhills near
here is scooped out like a volcano crater
by the wind. The hollow is bowl shaped,
about 40 feet deep & 80 feet wide. The wind
was blowing hard today & the sand was
drifting up from the bottom of the hole & over
the side. It is loose sand. These holes are
common on the hills where the wind gets a
start below the grass roots. They are on the
top of the highest hills.

Cold & cloudy. A stiff wind all day &
sand flying.

April 20 Sunday. Cloudy & windy; some rain.

" 21 The rain had upset some of my traps but
I got some Boreoles & Gophers.
Made up skins & reset traps.
Seemed to be a little more among birds.
Grass Finches & Savannah Sparrows
appear for the first.

Windy & cool. Rained hard in
evening.

April 22. Caught 5 Arvicolas + a Hesperomys
+ an Ochetodon + a Geomys + 2 Spermophilius 13lineatus. Reset all the traps,
most of them in new places. Made
a spike deadfall + set for a Mole + dug
some holes for mice to tumble into. Made up 11 skins. Shot a Sharp Tailed
Grouse.

A warm day + everything growing.
Took up my traps among the hills where
I expected to get S. wallis, have only
caught S. 13lineatus. Arvicolas seem
to be numerous on the meadows.

" 23 Made a good catch, but nothing new.
Got 13 Hesperomys, 4 Ochetodons, 3
Arvicolas + 2 Geomys.

Took up my traps + set them out around
a field a mile + a half west. Hope to get
Wallis + Proechimys.

Skinned 12 mice but didn't get them
stuffed. Got two Arvicolas in
one of the holes dug yesterday. Had
15 traps set in a field of wild sunflower
+ caught 13 mice in them - Hesperomys
+ Ochetodons. They seem to live in
the same places.

A clear pleasant day.

Apr. 24. Caught a *S. wallis* & 3 *P. flavescens*
& an *Ochetodon* & 4 *Hesperomys* & 2
Dipodomys.

Didnt hunt much, just hurried back from
traps & skinned things the rest of day.
Cloudy, windy, & cold.

" 25 A bad post in morning, warm &
pleasant later.

Caught nothing new or of special
account. Made up a lot of skins
in P.M. took a tramp over to an alkali
lake in Stouts' Valley, - two or half miles

" 26 Some post in morning, a pleasant day.
Caught a *S. wallis* & 2 *Perognathus* &
some other things. finished up skins
& packed the specimens. A busy day.

" 27 Sunday. Killed a Skunk.

" 28 Started for Valentine at 7 A.M.
Saw no *Spermophiles* along the road
Killed a Rattle snakes.

Warm & pleasant but windy &
cloudy. Plums, *Ribes cereum*,
willows & other flowers are in blossom on
the Niobrara & vegetation is much ahead of that
at Recanney.

Apr. 29. Left Valentine at 10:30 A.M. + arrived at Chadron at 5:30 P.M. It is the first time I have passed over this part of the road ~~in~~ daylight. For a few miles we follow up the valley of the Minnekadusa Creek + then strike off through the sandhills. Then it is sandhills with here + there ponds + washes + a few little creeks until within 6 miles of Garden. The sandhills are high + very irregular, are of light sand + not very thickly clothed with grass. The hills have the appearance of wind drifts, + if they are, were probably formed when there was little or no vegetation on them. The bottoms + valleys between the hills are grassy + pestil. Ponds are numerous + most of them alkaline.

6 miles east of Garden we pass abruptly from sand onto a clay soil. The whole country is changed. It is smooth + slightly rolling, grass is thick + starts eaten down. The soil is rich + dark + farms are numerous, + large fields of grain look nice. This is no. Farming between Valentine + Garden.

but stock runs over all the sand region. Gordon, Rushville, Haysprings, & Chadron are good thrifty towns. There is no timber between Valentine & Bordeaux, the station next to Chadron. Here we enter a brushy creek valley with some trees, & high bluffs of a soft whitish rock along its sides are covered with *Pinus p. sylvestris*. This ridge of fine bluffs runs just S. W. of Chadron & a beginning of badlands may be seen to the N. E. The leaves & flowers are farther advanced at Chadron than at Valentine though it is farther north & ~~+200~~⁸⁰⁰ feet higher. A clear day, almost hot. Chadron is 5360 feet.

Set traps till dark but did not find much signs of game - only one Pocket Gopher kill.

One of the stores here is built of the striped purple & gray sandstone from the quarry 6 miles W. of Buffalo Gap. It is the handsomest building stone I ever saw. The stripes are true & wavy & the color rich.

April 30. Got up at 4:30 & went to my traps,
Caught a large, dark Geomys, nothing
else. Left Chadron at 6:30 A.M.
A range of hills with rocky, pine covered
summits run a few miles south of Chadron
& in a N.W. direction. The R.R. follows
along the N. side of them until they
curve west to the N. & we pass through
a gap at Ft. Robinson. From there
they extend away to the north. Seem to
be a barrier reef of the Black Hills.
They are of a limy sandstone. are
covered with *Pinus P. scopoloum*.

The White River is a small creek at Chadron
& we follow its valley to Crawford.
The valley is grassy & fertile & there
are lots of good farms.

Cross the B. & M. R.R. at Crawford.
Pocket Gopher hills were numerous on the
sandy land passed over yesterday, but
are rather scarce on the clay soil of today's
route. Andrews - leave the hills &
enter rolling prairie, grassy & some farms.
Van Tassel - a little creek, grassy
valleys & bare rocks on ridges.

Just before reaching Lusk *Artemesia*
cana & *A. frigida* become common.
The soil is drier & more barren.
Some mines near Lusk & red faint beds.

At Mandan the Laramie Mts. begin to slow & Laramie Peak is covered with snow - also some of the lower peaks. As we descend the slope into the N. Platte Valley, the country grows more barren & alkaline & like the Badlands.

At Fisher *Artemesia tridentata* is abundant & in 3 miles farther we strike the N. Platte R.

Reached Douglas at noon, got mail, set traps & hunted. Talked about the country with those who know it well.

Posted some specimens & wrote in evening. Found *Thermopsis rhombifolia* & *Leucosium montanum* & a little *Phlox* in blossom at Douglas. They are farther along than at Cladron. A very warm day.

May 1

Caught 2 *S. tridens lineatus* & a *Dipodomys*, skinned them & got things ready for a stage trip - sent a box of skins.

Left Douglas for Rock Creek at 1 P.M. Crossed the Platte & began to climb the Laramie Mts. Cactus & sage brush abundant - long hills & soft rock. No timber till we strike the Lappet Creek, along it is *Populus angustifolia* & *Toxidea*, & brush, some farms & stock ranches along creek. Reached Beavers P.O., 20 miles from Douglas

+ stopped for the night. It is on the Loppard Creek + rocky hills all around. Lots of little side creeks of cold, pure water, willows + other brush along them. Staid with Mr. Howard. Found Prairie Dogs. - *C. ludovicianus* - all along the road. - Saw no Pocket Gopher hills till well in Loppard Creek valley. Set 13 traps before dark. Killed a Rabbit with long ears, *S. 13 lineatus* common all along + at Beaver.

A warm day, can see lots of snow on Mts. *Phlox woodi* + *Viola nuttallii* + *Thermopsis rhombifolia* in blossom at Douglas + all along road.

May 2 Got out early + went to traps as soon as I could see - Caught a Thomomys + 2 Arvicolas + a Hesperomys, skinned what I could before starting + took skins along rolled up.

Left Beaver at 5:30, still climbing, followed up creek valley + then crossed ridges into other creek valleys, timber on the hills - *Pinus p. scopulorum* - + a Spruce. Wide grassy parks between the ridges, grass thick + green, good feed for stock. Lots of little streams running down the gulches, fed by the snow banks above. *Viola nuttallii* common all along, *Phlox woodi* (?) abundant in solid mats of

flowers, some bunches a foot across a solid mat of white flowers so thistle & depressed that they look like a patch of snow.

Artemesia trifida takes the place of *tridentata* & *cava* on the high divide. Stopped at noon about 18 miles from Beaver. *Cynomys ludovicianus* common till noon.

About 5 miles after where we stopped for dinner we enter a deep rocky canon & follow it about 4 miles. It has a rapid stream, brush, & the high rock walls. *Arctomys flaviventer* (?) are common along the rocky sides of canon, shot 5 & saw 12. They all up on rocks looking out for danger & are hard to get at.

Spermophilus ~~talpoides~~ (?) first seen just before entering the canon.

Saw no Chipmunks or Red Squirrels but both are said to be in the canon.

Reached Mountain Home at 5 P.M.

Saw first *Cynomys columbianus* here. Went about 5 miles farther & camped.

Saw a large Badger & shot at it but didn't get it. Camped 35 miles from Rock Creek. A cool & pleasant day but rained & haled while we ate supper.

Skinned somethings by firelight & then rolled in our blankets.

May 3. Slept well inspite of cold & hard ground
& coyote music.

Got up before daylight, got breakfast
Started at 5:15. Just bad time to measure
& skin 2 Woodchucks before starting.
Soon crossed the divide & then it is
mostly down hill. Soon leave the Mts.
& come out onto hill & plains. Saw
35 Antelope, 20 Sage hens, killed a
Lepus campestris, *C. columbianus* &
S. townsendi com. all along to Rock
Creek. Reached Rock Creek at 4 P.M.
Rained & hailed so as to wet us just
before reaching town.
Took the 7 o'clock train for Rawlins.

4

Sunday - a quiet day at Rawlins.
Tramped out over the hills a ways &
saw some *Spermophiles*.
Cold & squalls of snow & sleet.

5 Got my traps as early as possible &
went to work stuffing the skins
that I had got along the road.

Got the small ones stuffed & some others
ready before noon. At noon Mr. Beckman
came in from Bridger's Pass, so I
packed up & started with him for his
ranch, 18 miles S.W. of Rawlins.

Shot 2 *Spermophiles townsendi* & two

Lepus campestris + 2 sage hens along the road. saw lots of Spermophiles + a few Prairie Dogs. The north sides of hills are covered with snow + the weather is cold. grass has not grown much + tree poplars + willow buds have hardly begun to swell.

Arrived at Beckmans ranch at 6 o'clock.

May 6 At Beckmans Ranch near Bridges Pass. Hunted ~~to~~ an hour before breakfast + a few minutes in evening. Worked on the specimens picked up along road the rest of the day. Wrote in evening. Ground froze in morning, a warm + pleasant day.

" 7 A little frost in morning. Large beds of old snow lie on the north sides of hills + in gulches.

Clear + very warm most of day. Finished up skins + killed a Woodchuck + 2 Spermophiles. set traps, + hunted. Spermophiles + Peromyscs are numerous.

May 8. Killed a *Lepus sylvaticus*, an *Arctomys*,
a *Spermophile* & caught an *Arvicola* &
a *Thomomys*

Set traps, hunted, & skinned things.
Found a Porcupine but he got into a
hole. Cloudy & not very warm.

" 9 Caught 3 *Thomomys*, an *Arvicola longicaudus*
an *Onychomys*, & killed a *Tamias lateralis*.
Went up the cañon to top of hill & onto the
highest peak near here, probably a 1000 feet
above the valley, stunted *Pinus flexilis*
grow on the very top. Found some *Tamias*
lateralis on rocks on the high hills.
Snow is 50 feet deep - in places more -
on the north side of steep hills.
Rained & snowed for about an hour
in P.M. Cold all day.

" 10 Caught an *Arvicola longicaudus*, 2 *Hesperomys*,
Shot 3 *Spermophiles* & an *Arctomys*.
Hunted down in the valley but found
nothing new except *Spizella breweri*.
Put up the specimens. set a trap for
Wild Cat.
Cold morning & cool all day.

May 11 Sunday -

Caught a big Wild Cat in my trap. Weighed 31 lbs. Very rufus & spotted. It was caught by one toe in a No. 3 Beaver trap. Had kept still & not hurt its toe much or done much scratching around, but had eaten up a whole Woodchuck that was used for bait. A cool day with squalls of snow & rain.

" 12 Didn't catch much, skinned the Wild Cat & other things. In P.M. set Badger & mouse traps down in the valley & along creek.

Cold & windy & I could not find any *Spizella breweri*. Squalls of snow & rain.

" 13 A flurry of snow laid on the ground in the morning so as to make it white. Cold all day -

Didn't catch much, set a few traps over, shot 3 *Spizella breweri*, made up the skins of these & 6 mammals.

Began on my report in evening. Several squalls of snow.

May 14 Went down in valley, about 2 miles.

Shot a *Tamias 4vittatus* & saw another in the sagebrush that I couldn't get.

Killed 4 *Spizella breweri*, saw a flock of about a dozen *Microtus melanodelicas*. Wasted two shots on them at too long range. Took up most of my traps, caught 6 *Tamias lateralis* & some *Thomomys*. A cold day, froze in morning.

" 15 Frosty in morning, a pleasant day.

Went down into valley & killed 9 *Tamias 4vittatus* & 2 *Spizella breweri*. Caught nothing.

Packed up the specimens in P.M. & finished my report in evening.

A busy day. 16 hours of steady work.

" 16 Got up early & took up the rest of my traps, caught an *Arvicola* only.

Packed my trunk, had breakfast & started for Rawlins at 6:30. Saw a great many *Spermophilus* ~~fuscus~~^{fuscus} & some *Cynomys columbianus* along the road. A few ducks were in the alkali slopes. *Spizella breweri* are common all through the sage brush.

Sent specimens, read & wrote letters & laid in supplies at Rawlins Wyo.

* Mrs. Hewitt is mother of Wm. Harvey
& they have the ranch together.

May 17 Reached Carter station at 6 o'clock in morning & had to wait till 11:30 for the stage to Ft. Bridger, Wyo. Rode about 15 miles across bare sage-brush country to the Ft. & then five miles farther to Mrs. Hewitt's ranch* on Smiths Fork.

The streams are very high & the Montana Mts. covered to the base with snow. Grass is green & good along the streams. A cold & windy day.

Reached the ranch at about 5 P.M. Most of the flowers along the road are new to me.

" 18 Sunday, a pleasant day, rather cool for keeping still.

" 19 Got to work early & tramped over a lot of ground but did not accomplish much. Set traps for Gophers & mice, shot a Tamias & vittatus & caught 2 Arvicolas riparius, or like it, & a Spermophilus tarassacoides. Didn't find much signs of mammal life. Saw one young Cottontail. Spizella breweri are common, killed one. Didn't stop to hunt much. Fell in the ditch & got wet. The creek is very high & runs in half a dozen channels. Weather pleasant.

May 20

Caught a young Cottontail & 2 *Thomomys*
that I think are different species.
Killed some birds, Wad up skins.
Set some traps & took up others.
Got ready to go for a two days trip over
onto Henry's Creek.
Warm & pleasant.

" 21

Started at 7 A.M. for a trip over to
Henry's Fork, about 30 miles S.E. of here.
Went with a 4 horse team & big wagon
after a load of lime. After leaving the
creek valley we entered bad lands &
followed through them several miles,
then up onto a table land & across to
Cottonwood Creek. Then through more
badlands over the divide & down to
Henry's Fork Cr. near Lone Tree P.O. Wyo

Crossed the bushy flats & meadows
of the creek valley & found the lime
bed on the hills beyond, near where
Picea pungens begins. The lime is soft
& seems to be pure. is like slackened
lime. Helped Mr. Gandy load up. Then
hunted Prairie Dogs. *C. columbianus*
were common up to where the spruce
begins. *Populus tremuloides* & *Picea*
pungens & *Pinus flexilis* begin about
together near Lone tree P.O.

The valley is broad & a large part of it wet & marshy. ~~Alkalie~~ is very abundant. There are several large ranches. It is but a few miles up to thick timber that seems to be Spruce. Snow comes down to near the edge of timber. Several patches of *Picea pungens* grow in the valley. The creek is very high & water runs through numerous channels over the valley. There are large thickets of large willow brush.

Saw very little game along the road. It was cloudy & windy. Shot one P.D. & saw ~~2~~ 2 *Spermophiles*.

Stopped at night at John Fouchier's place. Could not find any *Thomomys* hills near the ranch. saw one out by the hills but too far away to go to set traps. Rained all around us most all day & rained quite hard in the evening at the ranch.

Saw no new birds except an *Oreocystis*.

May 22 Got up early & started back, a clear warm day, frosty in morning.

Saw quite a number of ~~deer~~ *L. t. townsendi* & *Tamias* & *vittatus*. killed 4 of each on the way home. killed a *Lepus canadensis* before starting.

* Back to Harry (Wm) Ranch
on Smiths Fork (on May 17)

May Came back the same road through the bad-
lands. Took more time for hunting.
Animal life is scarce. Found some
pieces of fossil turtles in the badland
hills. Got ~~back~~ at 4 P.M. with quite a
lot of specimens, am well satisfied
with the traps. Saw antelope tracks.

" 23 Went to the traps that I left out from
day before yesterday & found 2 Zanises
& 4 Hesperomys & a Thomomys. 5 Hesperomys
& a Zanias were spoiled.
Worked most all day to get the skins.
Made up. Set a few more traps. Caught
two Thomomys of different & well marked
species.
A rather cold & very windy day.

" 24 Caught 4 Thomomys, one dark one
& 3 of the little, pale T. chrysos. A Badger
got into one of the Gopher traps & carried
it off - killed some birds, made up
skins. Hunted for Spizella nests.
A pleasant day, just warm
enough to be comfortable.

" 25 Sunday. A nice day, warm & pleasant.
Was hardly out doors all day.

May 26. Took a bag of traps & went across the creek & set some on the S. side. Set others along up the creek on this side for Gophers. Caught a Spermophile & 3. Hornwings & killed a Lameas & a Spizella arenacea & Swallow & other birds. Went over into the badland bank across the creek & hunted fossils. Found a few bones & some turtle shell, nothing of much account, here & there a bit but no bones bedded in the bank. It is the bank of the creek valley, is about 100 feet high, of bad clay & soft sand rock, very steep & in places perpendicular. It is horizontally stratified, the lower part seems to have been deposited in deep water as a kind of blue clay from very fine sediment. The sandstone is near the top & has probably been deposited near shore as the land rose. The fossils were mostly scattered so I could not tell where they belonged. Some were high up close to the sandstone.

Found a nest with 4 eggs of *Sialia Arctica* in a little cave of the rock. Violet-green Swallows were around the rocks & probably nest in them. From the top of the bank the land stretches off in a level, sagebrush table.

The warmest day yet since I have been here. 73° at 2 P.M.

May 27. Found where some *Spizomys* lived on a meadow between the creek channels & shot 3 before breakfast. Caught another in trap later. Caught a *Thomomys* & a *Hesperomys* & an *Oryzomys*.

Killed some birds & a Rabbit. Found a *Colaptes cafer* nest with 7 eggs well incubated, & a *Sturnella m. neglecta* nest with 5 fresh eggs & a *Spizella breweri* nest with 4 fresh eggs. Shot the old ♂ *Spizella* when he flew off of the nest & got the eggs & nest.

Skinned & put up all the things but stuffing the Rabbit. Worked till late. Hunted fossils along the side hills across the creek. Found some queer bones, some of fish, turtles, & mammals. Dug down where they were lying on top but could not find any more.

Windy & dusty & some cloudy.

28 Caught 4 *Hesperomys* & a *Thomomys* & killed 4 *Spizomys* & some birds & a Rabbit. Made up skins. Caught a big *Neotoma*. Windy & raw.

May 29. A cold night. I slept cold & didn't get up till breakfast was most ready. Went to my traps, didn't catch much but found some *Spermophiles* & shot 6, 4 of them were young, just out of the nest for the first time (?) & I "auxed" them one after another as they came out of the hole, all in about 8 minutes. Shot some more adults that got into their holes & lost them.

They seem quite plenty on a meadow between two channels of the creek. Probably the Badgers haven't found them there yet. Saw a Sparrow Hawk carry off a young *Spermophilus* in its claws, the young one squealing & its mother sitting up watching & chipping. I was sorry for her & killed her but she kicked down a hole.

Skinned things & then hunted some more & dug fossils along the valley bank across the creek. Found a little snake, the first I have seen here. They are said to be *racers* & no rattlesnakes here.

Mosquitos are getting bad.

Green meat flies are exceedingly thick, probably owing to so many dead cattle around. The people say they were never so numerous before. There isn't room for them to sit on the sunny sides of fences & buildings.

Got some mail & change my plans. Will try the mountains.

May 30. Killed 2 more young *Spermophiles* & caught a couple of *Thomomys*, one of each species, & a *Tamias*.

Made up skins, & blew a set of eggs & hunted & dug fossils, & looked up a few plants in botany.

31 Caught a *Thomomysclusius* on the high bank across the creek & also a *Perognathus*. Shot 2 young *Spermophiles* & got a set of eggs & one bird of *Epizilla breweri*. Dug out a fossil turtle from the sand-stone bank.

Made up skins & blew eggs, & then set 18 traps on the bank for *Perognathus*. Charged gun & loaded shells & packed some things to take to the mountains Monday morning.

Wrote up the *Perognathus* for our "Collectors Guide" in evening.

June 1 Sunday.

I start for the Uintah Mts. in the morning & if I don't come back the journal will end here.

June 2

Started up the Mts. at 7:30 in morning on a horse with a bag of provision, traps, blanket, & gun. Reached Archie's Fork, where Mount & I camped in 1888 at 3 P.M. & the Steel Mill 5 miles beyond at 4:30. Camped & set traps for mica & Hornormys, grass is splendid at the fork of the E. & W. branches of Smith's fork where I ~~camped~~ Only little patches of snow in shady places, lots of little creeks. Thick pine & spruce timber all around, Willows along creek, poplars in places. The road is full of Bear tracks, some big ones, one $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide across ball of foot. Saw two Antelope & two Deer. Flowers are very numerous & pretty along the road. The air is loaded with perfume from the different species of Phlox.

A pleasant day but a long, slow ride of 30 miles. Frost in morning at the ranch, a cool evening in the Mts. with only the an old shanty walls to keep off the wind. Cooked my supper of bacon & oatmeal & bread & made a bed in the corner of the shanty with some pine boughs.

June 3

Left well on my bed of pine boughs, got up early & stole a good layer of snow from my blanket. Got breakfast & took a lunch & traps & started up the creek. Rode about le smiles & then tied my horse & went on afoot. Made better progress through the timber & up the side of cut. Followed up the E. fork to where it comes out from under deep snow in a cañon high up. Climbed a steep slope to timberline. Could go no farther for deep snow.

Found signs of Lagomys at timberline & saw a big Arctomys. The south slope was bare up to timberline. The rocks are broken & rough & piled up along the sides below high cliffs. It is a red quartzite. Guess I got about 10 miles from camp.

The stream tumbles & boils along down a deep gulch. Willows grow along it & some places are marshy. There are a number of fords along this stream.

Snowed most of the time all day & still snowing in evening. Sometimes an inch of snow on the ground & again all melted. *Caltha leptosepala* are abundant all along from camp to timberline & look funny poking their heads out of the snow.

Got back to camp at 4 P.M. Cold & disagreeable. Got wet & took cold.

Smith
Fork

June 4 2 inches of snow on the ground in
morning & temperature at 30° (7).
Concluded to kill a Deer or not go up
the Mt. till tomorrow.

Red Castle.

Found Deer tracks too thick to follow.
Just tramped through the woods, saw
3 Deer & could have killed them with
a rifle but they were too far for a shot
gun. so wired & the snow & crunches.

Started for Elk twice but did not
see it. Hopped up & killed a
Snowshoe Rabbit. The first I have seen.
It has just shed its white coat,
looks like a L. americanus but is
darker & slender & lighter & has
longer ears & feet & jumps farther.

Shot 2 Pine Squirrels & 4 Tamias,
some birds & caught a Thomasomys &
set 18 traps. A Fox & 2
Tamias that I killed yesterday at
Timberline.

Snow mostly gone at night, a
raw, chilly day & cold in evening.
Have to keep a big fire to sit by to
work. Feel mean from the cold I
have taken.

June 5, A clear frosty morning, 25° at sunrise.
Went to my traps & got 2 *Hornomys* &
an *Arvicola rufinus* & *A. pallidus* &
a *Tamias*. Started up the Mt. before
7 o'clock, saw 3 deer lying down & 2
others, wounded one but did not get it.
Reached the peak at 10 o'clock, found
2 *Lagomys* in my traps, heard the
Arctomys but could not find - kiffs,
2. of the large *Tamias* on the rocks
& saw more. Heard a voice that
was probably *Lagomys* but saw none
they are shy & keep in among the rocks.
Found the tales given on the map.
Coming home I saw 2 Elks. They were
feeding in a field & did not see
me for a long time. got within 15
rods of them. The buck was large
& had velvet horns a foot long.
Got back at 5 o'clock. Cleaned
15 things & then got supper.
A pleasant day & not very cold

June 6. A frosty morning, 27° at sunrise.
Took up traps, got another *Arvicola*
fallidus & a *Hesperomys* & shot a
Tamias lateralis & some birds.
Packed up my things & started down
the Mt. at 7:30. Hunted along &
went slow. Caught some trout
when I crossed Willow Creek & had
them for dinner.
Saw no big game except 5 *dox*,
Grouse & 3 *Rock Rabbits*.
Got to the ranch at 6:30, a long
slow ride but a pleasant trip.
A nice day.

June 7 At the ranch again in the valley,
Worked all day at the specimens
brought down & just got them
all put up in good shape.
Wrote on my report in evening.
A warm & very pleasant day.

.. 8 Sunday, A pleasant day.

.. 9 Packed specimens till noon,
Wrote out report in P. M.
Warm & pleasant.

.. 10 Came over to Carter station, killed
2 Prairie Dogs on the road, saw
more & a lot of young ones.
Tamias & Spermophilus are common
at Carter.
Got a freight train at 3 o'clock
& came as far as Evanston &
stopped for the night. Can gain
nothing by going ahead of my trunk.

.. 11 Left Evanston at 9 P.M. on the
regular passenger train, & reached
Eelo at 11. Found lots of roses
in blossom at Eelo & fields of
Lucern & grain. Left for Park
City on a freight at 1 P.M.

Followed up a steep grade to Park City, up a canon & rapid stream. Found Park City in a notch of the mts. up near timber & near snow. It is a mining town & has big ore mills. Has only one street & that narrow. Much like Deadwood, ~~S.D.~~ S.D.

Puts up at hotel & can walk from town up high & get down in the pines to get Spermophiles.

A summer day.

June 12 Took a bag of traps & started up the mountain. Did not get very far from town. The Chipmunks & Spermophiles & birds & new flowers kept bothering me. Got 3 Tamias lateralis & saw a lot more, killed 5 Spermophiles. Found them away up on the Mt. among timber & brush. *Abies* & *Picea pungens* begin at the upper edge of trees but have been cut except scattering ones for a good ways up. Killed some birds. Found Purple Martins & Violet Swallows & House Wrens all nesting - or going in & out of - the Woodpecker holes in a popple tree. Made up skins in P.M. A warm day, like summer. Didn't find any place to set traps.

June 13. Went up the Mt. again & nearly up to the top. Killed 2 *Tamias lateralis* & 2 *T. quadrivittatus*, & 4 *Spizella*. Saw an *Arctomys* & a lot of birds. Set a few traps.

Made up skins in P.M.

A cloudy, chilly day. Cleared up at night.

" 14 A little frost in morning. The snow high up froze hard.

Went up the Mt. again. Couldn't find any Woodchucks, killed 6 *Spizella*, could have shot 20 but wanted to get more other things. Caught 2 *Homopus* & shot a *Tamias lateralis* & a *T. quadrivittatus*.

Caught an *Hesperomys*.

Got back to hotel at noon & worked till 9 P.M. to get the things all put up.

It is a long, steep climb of 2023 miles up the Mt. & takes too much time, but there seems to be no other way to manage.

The snow lies in great beds, deep & solid over most of the north slope high up. Some avalanches have come down & are piled up, snow & dirt & stones & trees - at the foot of the peaks.

A pleasant day, clear & not too warm.

June 15. Sunday. Windy & dusty & not very warm.

" 16. Went up the cut. Killed a few Chipmunks & things & got an *Arvicola longicaudus*. Found a *Tamias* in my *Arctomys* trap. Reset my traps & set 19 for *Neosorex* in a bushy place along the creek. A hard rain in evening has probably upset all of my traps & ruined the best part of my day's work.

Made up skins in P.M. & went down in the park below town. Did not find anything down there but *Spermophils*. They are numerous.

A cool day with a hard rain in evening.

" 17. Went up the gulch again, despite of rain, caught 2 *Hesperomys* & 2 big footed *Arvicolas* & a *Neosorex*.

Set 4 *Tamias*, one is a kind not found before here, a larger *quadrituberculatus*.

Saw an *Arctomys* go into a hole in the rocks & waited an hour & a quarter for him to come out but he did not.

Made up skins in P.M. - 10. Clear & pleasant but windy.

June 18. Went up the cañon & over the tops of the mountains, could look down on Heber & the valley, & see the great white peaks of the Wasatch away north & south. Could not see any thick timber. it is all scattering. This is a low range above Park City but it takes a curve to the S.W. & is higher about 10 miles from here.

Shot two Arctomys & caught one in a trap, saw 2 more. They seem to be common on the rocky peaks. Shot some Tamias & caught a Thomomys & Hesperomys. The shrew traps were all sprung & nothing in them. Packed skins & began our report.

A warm pleasant day. Could see 3 nice little lobes high up in the Mts.

" 19 Packed up & finished report, sent the specimens by mail, & started down the hill for Salt Lake City at 4:30 P.M. Went down lively, for the first 8 or 10 miles through grassy parks along the stream. Then up & over a ridge & down into steep cañons past the half way house where I staid in the fall of 1888.

Went upon canon to cross it, but it is so narrow the train could not turn in it so had to run up to a point & switch over & come down the other side reversed - like turning around on a Y.

The climate changed from spring & frost & snow on the mts. to mid-summer & flowers & fruits & vegetables growing - a crop of hay already cut in the valley.
Had to lay over at Salt Lake City.

" 20 Could have left town at 7:30 but had to get some things & tried to find a friend who is probably in Salt Lake C. so did not get off till the 11 A.M. train. Reached Lehi at 1 o'clock & got a train to take me over to Fairfield which used to be Camp Floyd - 18 miles from Lehi. Would have to wait till tomorrow morning for a train. Didn't see much signs of game along the road. Windy & dusty. Crossed the end of the Lake Range & into Cedar Valley & found Fairfield about the middle of a big dry, grass brush valley. Warm.



